

cense and prohibition. Speak of conversion as the best remedy.)

What can each of us do against the saloon?

It is timely to consider the relation of the saloon to anarchy. The fiendish fool who shot our president learned his ideas in a saloon. Detectives and reporters who seek for anarchists go the round of the saloons. The track of Emma Goldman is from one saloon to another. The whole breed is a side-show of the saloon.

#### THE DEVIL'S WANT AD.

Johnson, the drunkard, is dying today,  
With traces of sin on his face.  
He'll be missed at the club, at the bar, at the play;  
Wanted—a boy for the place.

Boys from the fireside, boys from the farm,  
Boys from the home and the school,  
Come leave your misgivings there can be no harm  
Where "drink and be merry's" the rule.

Wanted—for every lost servant of men  
Some one to live without grace;  
Some one to die without pardon divine.  
Have you a boy for the place?

—Southan.

C. F. YODER.

#### A BAD BARGAIN

J. WARREN DEURY

Our subject for this evening is "A Bad Bargain," found in Genesis 25: 29-34

Here we find that Esau being the oldest child, and according to the laws of the country would fall heir to the family estate and to the position of head of the family. It was a very responsible position, yet we see how he, in a thoughtless moment, forfeited all his title to it for a mess of pottage. He thus became an example of all those who give up their prospects of heaven and future happiness for a few years of worldly pleasures, who forsake all that is grand and noble for a mess of pottage. Thus we see that one is as foolish as the other.

I have selected a few references from which I hope each person will, for himself, extract the truths that are taught as he sees them, for we may not all see them in the same light. My references treat on commercial bargains, spiritual bargains and bargains for the gratification of one's own selfish pleasures. My first reference is found in Gen. 6: 5-8; "And God saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on earth and it grieved him to his heart."

Here we see that after God had created man after his own image and bestowed upon him all the blessings of life, that man did not appreciate what God had done for him but followed after his own pleasures and fell into sin and wickedness to such an extent that God repented that he had made man, yet afterward he so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life. I believe we should all be more dependent on rather than independent of God and always remember how much we owe to God.

2. Gen. 37: 28: "Then there passed by Midianite merchantmen; and they drew

and lifted Joseph out of the pit and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver and they brought Joseph into Egypt."

Here we see that what promised to be at first a misfortune to Joseph, yet thru God's merciful providence proved to be a blessing to Joseph as well as his brethren. We should always remember that even tho there come dark hours and trials and sufferings yet if we are but patient and put our trust in the Lord everything will come out alright in the end.

3. Matthew 25: 24. "Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sowed. And I was afraid and went and hid my talent in the earth, lo, there thou hast that is thine."

We learn from this reference that God requires more of us than that he has already given us. He has endowed us with a capital but it is our duty to use it that when the recording angel strikes a balance of our life's work that there stands to our credit, not only the capital, but the percentage of gains should be equal to the ability with which God has endowed us.

4. Matthew 26: 14-16. "Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot went unto the chief priests, and said unto them, what will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. Also Matthew 27: 3-5, "Then Judas which betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us, see thou to that. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed and went and hanged himself."

Here we see what a bargain Judas made, yet we must give Judas credit for seeing the mistake he made and his attempt to rectify it. How many people there are in this world to day that are even worse than Judas, who after having once experienced the joy that comes to a Christian and afterward betray their Christ by going back into sin and never attempt a reconciliation again.

5. Matthew 26: 34-36. "Jesus said unto him, verily I say unto thee that this night before the cock crow thou shalt deny me thrice. Peter said unto him, tho I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples." How many are there of us who make bargains like Peter, and in a moment commit ourselves and then under different circumstances we seem to forget all the promises we have ever made and are denying our Christ who has done so much for us.

6. Luke 15: 12-14. "And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me, and he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together and took and his journey into

a far country and there wasted his substance in riotous living."

You are all acquainted with the story of the prodigal son and how foolish it was of him to make such a request when he had everything necessary for his health and happiness, yet are there not many Christians to-day that are not content with the blessings and happiness that God administers from day to day, but are always craving for that which in their present state would be impossible for them to receive, and because they do not receive it are discontented. God only bestows his blessing in such magnitude as he knows would be wisdom for us to have. I know of no better way to illustrate our spiritual growth than in the language of the Poet:

"The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they while their companions slept  
Were toiling upward in the night."

7. Luke 16: 19-31. There was a certain rich man which was clothed in purple and fine linnen and fared sumptuously every day. And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus which was laid at his gate full of sores."

This is a very familiar story but it illustrates both a bad and a good bargain. We see the rich man's desires were for things of this earth and from the narrative he must have had all that earthly pleasures could give him, but he died and in hell lived up his eyes and saw Lazarus in Abraham's bosom. It is very readily seen which one made the good and which made the bad bargain. We see that it does not take riches to gain that rich reward of a home in heaven but even the poorest of God's creatures may enjoy it if they only hold fast to His promises.

8. John 2: 15-17. "And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep and the oxen; and poured out the changer's money and overthrew the table. And said unto them that sold doves, take these things hence; make not my Father's house a house of merchandise."

There are Christians, no I will not say Christians, but so called Christian men and women who are using Christianity as a mask to hide their own selfish purposes. They know it is a good thing and are using Christianity in their business and profession as a bargain counter for ill gotten gains. May we all be Christians, not only for duty's sake but from the stand point of love for the cause.

9. John 18: 38-40. Pilate saith unto him, what is truth? And when he had said this he went out again unto the Jews and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all. But ye have a custom, that I should release unto you one at the passover: will you therefore that I release unto you the King of the Jews? Then cried they all again saying not this man, but Barrabas. Now Barrabas was a robber."